

REMARKS

Claims 1-71 are pending in the application. Claims 27-60 and 64-68, have been cancelled. All claims presently stand rejected. The Examiner's rejections are addressed below in substantially the same order as presented in the pending office action.

I. THE CITED PRIOR ART: TANENHAUS & RIALIN

1. Tanenhaus

The Examiner rejected claims 1-13, 15-26, 61 and 63 as anticipated by Tanenhaus. To Applicant's reading, Tanenhaus discloses a system for sensor operation wherein the sensor experiences extended periods of dormancy or inactivity. The Tanenhaus system includes a vibration sensor and at least one other accompanying sensor (e.g., temperature, tilt, strain, or humidity). The vibration sensor is used in conjunction with a "wake up" circuit. As best understood by Applicant, the system is normally in a "low power" condition to conserve power. When the vibration sensor detects movement, the "wake up" circuit places the system in a full power state and the accompanying sensor initiates operation. The stated applications for this system include highway monitoring and military hardware. Clearly, the system disclosed by Tanenhaus is not intended for use in seismic surveying operations or, more specifically, to record seismic data suitable for characterizing subsurface formations. Furthermore, while Tanenhaus teaches the use of a global positioning system (GPS) connected to the data acquisition processing circuit, Tanenhaus states that the GPS is for military environments wherein vehicles, missiles, or other equipment travel or are shipped to various locations over time. That is, the GPS provides positioning data that is not utilized to process the data collected by the accompanying sensor or otherwise correlated with such data. For reasons provided below, Tanenhaus neither teaches nor suggests the inventions claimed in claims 1-13, 15-26, 61 and 63.

2. Rialan

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 3, 8-9, 13-19, 26, 61-63 and 69-71 as anticipated by Rialan. To Applicant's reading Rialan teaches a seismic exploration system having a seismic wave source and a number of acquisition devices. Each acquisition device has a large number of seismic receivers that are distributed along a seismic profile to be explored. Prior to operation, an operator moves around in the field with a positioning set that transmits position data into each local

acquisition device. Rialan teaches that since a single positioning set is used, there is a cost saving. Thus, to Applicant's understanding, the thrust of Rialan's teachings is using one or a few positioning sets to supply positioning data to many acquisition devices. For reasons discussed below, Rialan does not teach or suggest the invention claimed in claims 1,3,8-8, 13-19, 26, 61-63 and 69-71.

II. CLAIMS 1-13, 15-26, 61 AND 63: 102 REJECTIONS - TANENHAUS

With respect to claims 1 and 61, Tanenhaus does not teach correlating location data with seismic data. Rather, Tanenhaus simply uses GPS data to keep track of the location of a particular sensor. Tanenhaus has no teachings as to utilizing the GPS data in conjunction with the measures of a particular sensor.

Claims 3-13, 15-25 depend from independent claim 1, a claim believed to be in condition for allowance. Thus, claims 3-25 are believed allowable on at least those grounds. Claim 63, depends from independent claim 61, a claim believed to be in condition for allowance. Thus, claims 63 is believed allowable on at least those grounds.

III. CLAIMS 1, 3,8-9, 13-19, 26, 61-63 and 69-71: 102 REJECTIONS - RIALAN

With respect to claims 1, 61, and 69-71, Rialan does not teach a location sensor that provides data to only an associated receiver. Rialan also does not teach a location sensor co-located with each receiver. Thus, claims 1, 61, and 69-71 are submitted to be allowable over Rialan.

Claims 2, 3, 8-9, 13-19, 26 depend from independent claim 1, a claim believed to be in condition for allowance. Thus, claims 3-25 are believed allowable on at least those grounds.

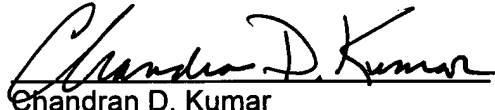
Claim 63, depends from independent claim 61, a claim believed to be in condition for allowance. Thus, claims 63 is believed allowable on at least those grounds.

CONCLUSION

For all the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that the application is in a condition for allowance. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-0010 (IO-1096USCP).

Respectfully submitted,

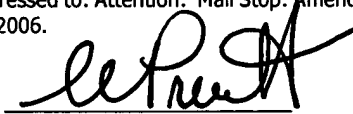
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